

Serial No. 09/777,801
Art Unit: 3765

A2 panels. These additional inserts or panels are optional. Such panels are typically rectangular, oblong, or are elongated with curvilinear shaped ends and or portions.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-144 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 145-186 as follows:

145. (new) A method of forming an undergarment comprising:

Sub
A7 inserting an adhesive layer between a first fabric layer and a second fabric layer to form a fabric composite, said composite having a periphery that is larger than an outer periphery of the undergarment;

causing said adhesive layer to form a laminate from said composite; and

A3 removing a selvage from said laminate at said outer periphery to form a finished edge of the undergarment.

146. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein the undergarment is a brassiere.

147. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein the undergarment is a panty.

148. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein said finished edge resists unraveling.

Serial No. 09/777,801
Art Unit: 3765

149. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein said finished edge has a shape selected from the group consisting of a straight edge, a scalloped edge, and any combination of the foregoing.

150. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein said selvage is between about one half of an inch and an inch.

151. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein removing said selvage from said laminate comprises moving a cutting device along said outer periphery.

152. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein removing said selvage from said laminate comprises punching a die into said laminate wherein said die corresponds to said outer periphery.

153. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein said adhesive layer only bonds said first and second fabric layers together in a selected region so that a non-bonded region is formed.

154. (new) The method as in claim 153, wherein said non-bonded region is a breast cup region.

155. (new) The method as in claim 153, wherein said non-bonded region is a buttocks region.

156. (new) The method as in claim 145, further comprising molding a portion of said laminate to a desired shape after causing said adhesive layer to form said laminate.

Serial No. 09/777,801

Art Unit: 3765

157. (new) The method as in claim 156, wherein said desired shape defines a breast cup region of the undergarment.

158. (new) The method as in claim 145, further comprising gluing or fusing a first region of said finished edge to a second region of said finished edge to form a continuous closed tubular undergarment.

159. (new) The method as in claim 145, further comprising inserting a fabric member between said first fabric layer and said adhesive layer.

160. (new) The method as in claim 159, wherein said fabric member is selected from the group consisting of an underwire channel, a gore, a fabric panel, a buttocks support panel, a bridging piece, and any combination of the foregoing.

161. (new) The method as in claim 159, wherein said fabric member is an underwire channel.

162. (new) The method as in claim 161, further comprising inserting an underwire into said underwire channel before or after causing said adhesive layer to form said laminate.

163. (new) The method as in claim 145, wherein said first fabric layer defines an exterior layer or an interior layer of the undergarment.

164. (new) The method as in claim 145, further comprising abutting a first fabric to a second fabric to form at least one of said first and second fabric layers.

Serial No. 09/777,801

Art Unit: 3765

165. (new) The method as in claim 164, further comprising inserting a bridging piece between said first fabric layer and said adhesive layer at a juncture of said first and second fabrics.

166. (new) A method of forming an undergarment comprising:

applying an adhesive layer to a first fabric layer;

overlying said adhesive layer with a second fabric layer;

causing said adhesive layer to bond said first and second fabric layers together to form a laminate, said laminate having a periphery that is larger than an outer periphery of the undergarment; and

cutting said laminate along said outer periphery to form a finished edge of the undergarment that resists unraveling.

167. (new) The method as in claim 166, wherein said adhesive layer only bonds said first and second fabric layers together in a selected region so that a non-bonded region is formed.

168. (new) The method as in claim 167, wherein said non-bonded region is a breast cup region.

169. (new) The method as in claim 167, wherein said non-bonded region is a buttocks region.

Serial No. 09/777,801
Art Unit: 3765

170. (new) The method as in claim 166, further comprising molding a portion of said laminate to a desired shape after forming said laminate.

171. (new) The method as in claim 170, wherein said desired shape defines a breast cup region of the undergarment.

172. (new) The method as in claim 170, further comprising gluing or fusing a first region of said finished edge to a second region of said finished edge to form a continuous closed tubular undergarment.

173. (new) The method as in claim 166, further comprising inserting a fabric member between said first fabric layer and said adhesive layer.

174. (new) The method as in claim 173, wherein said fabric member is selected from the group consisting of an underwire channel, a gore, a fabric panel, a buttocks support panel, a bridging piece, and any combination of the foregoing.

175. (new) The method as in claim 173, wherein said fabric member is an underwire channel.

176. (new) The method as in claim 175, further comprising inserting an underwire into said underwire channel before or after forming said laminate.

177. (new) The method as in claim 166, wherein said first fabric layer defines an exterior layer or an interior layer of the undergarment.

Serial No. 09/777,801
Art Unit: 3765

178. (new) The method as in claim 166, further comprising abutting a first fabric to a second fabric to form at least one of said first and second fabric layers.

179. (new) The method as in claim 178, further comprising inserting a bridging piece between said first fabric layer and said adhesive layer at a juncture of said first and second fabrics.

180. (new) A method of forming an undergarment comprising:

forming an adhesive layer having an adhesive-free portion;

surrounding said adhesive layer with a first fabric layer and a second fabric layer;

causing said adhesive layer to bond said first and second fabric layers together to form a laminate, said laminate having a periphery that is larger than an outer periphery of the undergarment; and

cutting said laminate along said outer periphery to form a finished edge of the undergarment that resists unraveling, wherein said adhesive-free portion defines a non-bonded region of said first and second fabric layers.

181. (new) The method as in claim 180, wherein said non-bonded region is a breast cup region.

Serial No. 09/777,801
Art Unit: 3765

182. (new) The method as in claim 181, further comprising molding said non-bonded region to a desired shape after forming said laminate.

183. (new) The method as in claim 182, wherein said desired shape defines a breast cup of the undergarment.

184. (new) The method as in claim 183, further comprising gluing or fusing a first region of said finished edge to a second region of said finished edge to form a continuous closed tubular undergarment.

185. (new) A method of forming an undergarment comprising:

inserting an adhesive layer between a first fabric layer and a second fabric layer;

causing said adhesive layer to form a laminate from said first and second fabric layers, said laminate having a periphery that is larger than an outer periphery of the undergarment;

cutting said laminate along said outer periphery to form a finished edge of the undergarment; and

gluing or fusing a first region of said finished edge to a second region of said finished edge so that the undergarment is a continuous closed tubular undergarment.

Serial No. 09/777,801

Art Unit: 3765

186. (new) A method of forming an undergarment comprising:

abutting a first fabric to a second fabric to form a first fabric layer;

inserting an adhesive layer between said first fabric layer and a second fabric layer;

causing said adhesive layer to bond said first and second fabric layers together to form a laminate, said laminate having a periphery that is larger than an outer periphery of the undergarment; and

cutting said laminate along said outer periphery to form a finished edge of the undergarment that resists unraveling.